

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

The aim of the study is to evaluate the benefits of diagnostic laparoscopy in cases of chronic abdominal conditions where other routine investigations are inconclusive. This study was conducted that it might obviate the need for imaging techniques in establishing the final diagnosis of these conditions.

PATIENTS AND METHODS:

Our study included 50 patients with a history of chronic abdominal pain if 3 months or more duration with unremarkable clinical examination and routine investigations.

RESULTS:

In our study, we achieved definitive diagnosis in 44 (88%) patients. This led to initiation of appropriate treatment in this patient group and pain response in terms of positive outcome (relief/reduction of pain after diagnostic laparoscopy) was seen in 90% of patients.

CONCLUSIONS:

Diagnostic laparoscopy is considered as an effective therapeutic tool and used in diagnosis and management of patients with chronic abdominal pain.

KEY WORDS : chronic , abdominal , pain , diagnostic , laparoscopy , relief